

Workforce Development Professional Month

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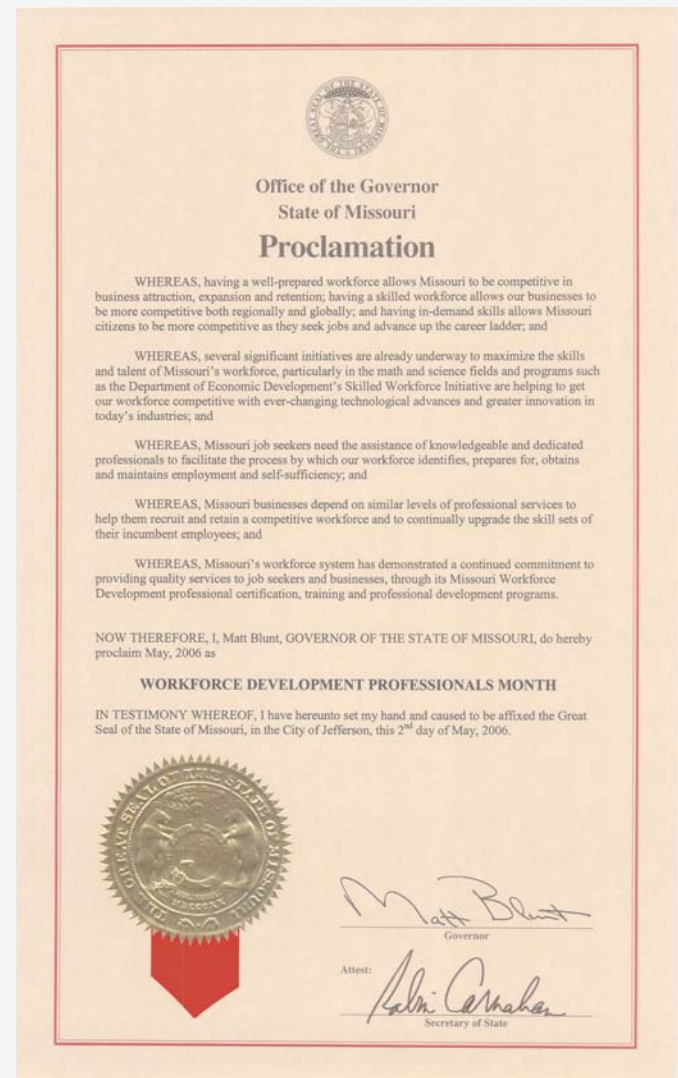
Month of May Designated as Workforce Development Professional Month

On May 4, the Missouri Department of Economic Development Director Greg Steinhoff presented a Governor's Proclamation designating the month of May as Workforce Development Professional Month at the Columbia Career Center, Columbia. This month recognizes the Missourians who have dedicated their careers to providing valuable services to job seekers and businesses throughout the state at Missouri Career Centers and the GreatHires.org Web site.

"We are honoring this month as Workforce Development Professional Month because there is no greater issue impacting Missouri's economic competitiveness than the quality of our workforce," said Steinhoff. "Missouri's workforce system assists many businesses and job seekers each year."

Accepting the proclamation at the event was Rod Nunn, director of the Missouri Division of Workforce Development; Don Holt, president of Training & Employment Administrators of Missouri; and Kim Mildward, president of the Missouri Association of Workforce Development.

Honoring Missourians during this time coincides with the Board of the National Association of Workforce Development Professionals (NAWDP) designating the month of May as National Workforce Development Professionals Month to honor those individuals in all Workforce Development organizations and partnerships that play a vital role in our economy.



Greg Steinhoff; Rod Nunn; Don Holt, TEAM President; Kim Mildward, MAWD President

Workforce Development Facts & Figures:

- ◆ Currently, there are more than 21,000 job openings posted on GreatHires.
- ◆ 263,307 job seekers were served by our system in this past year
- ◆ 183,091 customers received staff assistance from the workforce system
- ◆ 145,568 entered employment from that same group
- ◆ Of the 525 staff currently employed by the Division of Workforce Development, 260 of them are Certified Workforce Development Professionals
- ◆ An additional 200 partner staff are also certified MWDPs

See the 2005 Annual Report: 'Showcasing Workforce Excellence' at www.ded.mo.gov/wfd for more information about workforce system performance.

Local Proclamation Presentation

The presentation ceremony took place at the Missouri Career Center in Columbia in which a number of workforce development service providers are co-located. Local NBC affiliate, KOMU-TV, was on hand to interview DWD Central Region manager Gilbert Hake, who explained that services provided at career centers by local DWD staff and partners (Central Missouri Community Action, Central Region Workforce

Investment Board, Missouri Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Columbia Public Schools' Adult Education and Literacy Program) allow jobseekers and businesses to access a wide range of workforce development services in one location.



Here, Rod stands in front of one of the Career Center's new Career Information displays.



Columbia Career Center staff with Rod Nunn

What Do Workforce Development Professionals Do?

According to NAWDP's Case for Workforce Development Professionals Discussion Paper...

- Research and analysis of labor markets and economic information
- Building and maintaining one-stop partnerships and coalitions
- Providing expertise on regional workforce issues to business-led Workforce Investment Boards
- Training for both "hard" (occupational specific) and "soft" (job survival) skills
- Individual career planning advice
- Job matching and job referral for applicants and employers
- Job analysis for employers
- ...and much, much more

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